



**Pet Licence is an online questionnaire that is a free, interactive means of learning about responsible pet ownership.**

### **Dog and cat adoption discounts**

Successful completion of the test, and presentation of the Pet Licence certificate, entitles the owner to receive a discount on cat or dog adoption at our North Melbourne shelter

One of the Home's most important services is our adoption program. Our aim is to place our animals into loving homes with well prepared and informed owners.

To this end, The Lost Dogs' Home has launched an online questionnaire, Pet Licence. Whilst not compulsory, potential pet owners are encouraged to take the questionnaire which provides basic information about responsible pet ownership.

It also prompts owners to think about the costs associated with owning a pet as well as the necessary commitment to obedience training, veterinary care, grooming and socialisation.

The Lost Dogs' Home sees many cases of irresponsible pet ownership, resulting in dumped, lost, mistreated or surrendered animals. By educating the community about responsible pet ownership issues, the Home hopes to improve the overall welfare of companion animals in our society. Pet Licence is a free, interactive means of learning about responsible pet ownership.

The questionnaire takes about 10 minutes and consists of 20 questions. Owner handbooks are provided to help potential owners work through the questionnaire. In addition, hints are given until the person taking the questionnaire obtains 100 per cent!

The focus is on community education and is not designed to exclude people from owning pets. As a result of this Australian first, The Lost Dogs' Home expects:

- a reduction in return rates;
- more pets identified with microchips and ID collars;
- more awareness about veterinary care, training and socialisation, grooming, parasite treatment and how to responsibly own a pet in the community; and
- pets going to better homes.

The Home is leading the way in pet licencing. Our role as an animal welfare institution is to ensure our animals are adopted into good homes. It is our hope that pet licencing will become compulsory across the state for all pet owners.



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Since our official opening in 1913, we have been a voice for animals without owners caring for more than 25,000 cats and dogs each year. Pioneers for fair animal laws, we continue to work on the front line to reduce the number of lost, abandoned and stray cats and dogs.

We rely on public support to run services and programs, including; proactive adoption, foster care and behaviour rehabilitation programs, responsible pet ownership education and provide discounted microchipping through National Pet Register.